

CHARLIE CRIST

13TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

www.crist.house.gov

215 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5961

696 1ST AVENUE NORTH, SUITE 203  
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701  
(727) 318-6770

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

DEFENSE

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS  
AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES

SCIENCE, SPACE, AND  
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

SPACE AND AERONAUTICS

ENVIRONMENT

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0913**

January 25, 2022

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to wholeheartedly nominate Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Moores were pioneers and leading activists of the early Civil Rights Movement from Mims, Florida. Both were educators by profession, teaching in segregated public schools in and around Brevard County from 1925 to 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Moore organized the first Brevard County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1934. Mr. Moore would later organize chapters statewide, and in 1941, became President of the Florida Conference of NAACP branches. In 1945, he formed the Florida Progressive Voter's League and became its Executive Director. The League was instrumental in helping register over 100,000 Black voters in Florida.

As the head of the Florida State Conference of the NAACP, Mr. Moore led the fight against injustices on behalf of African Americans to include, voting rights and equal pay for Black teachers.

Mr. Moore was a forceful advocate against racial violence and lynching in Florida. Examples of his activism included efforts to bring attention to the lynching of Willie James Howard in 1944, as well as to the Groveland Rape case in 1949.

On December 25, 1951, a bomb exploded underneath the Moore's home in Mims, Florida after they celebrated Christmas and their 25th wedding anniversary. Mr. Moore was killed in the blast and Mrs. Moore passed away nine days later.

Their murders were the first assassination of any NAACP official to occur during the Civil Rights Movement and the only time that a husband and wife were murdered during the history of the movement.

The Moores were not only leaders of their time, but they were also heroes – united by their unwavering commitment to fight against discrimination, injustice, and hatred in communities across Florida and for that matter, across our nation.

As we commemorate Black History Month, honoring the history of Black Americans, I believe that the Moores are most deserving of the Presidential Medal of Freedom honor. From

emancipation to the Civil Rights Movement, the journey of Black communities across our nation exemplifies perseverance and triumph.

President Biden, it is my sincere hope that you will move-forward by honoring Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore with this distinction, because their contributions to our great nation is part of American history. Let us continue to honor their lives.

I thank you for your time and consideration and stand ready to assist you in any way possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charlie Crist". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Charlie" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Crist".

---

Charlie Crist  
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN